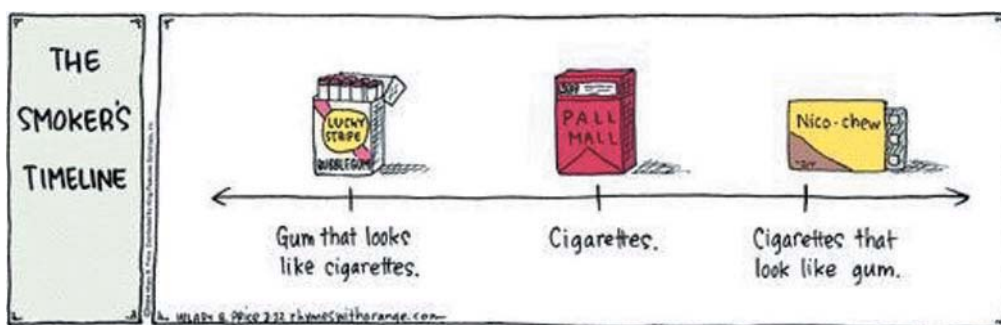


The Lighter Side



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THE ROANOKE TIMES
Monday, September 20, 2004



STEPHANIE KLEIN-DAVIS | The Roanoke Times

Melissa Williamson, 35, a Bullitt Avenue resident, worries about the effect on her unborn child from the sound of jackhammers.

For the "people unclear on the concept" file: The seven months' pregnant Melissa Williamson of Roanoke, Virginia, didn't mind being photographed smoking as she complained about the effect of jackhammer noise on her unborn child. The 35-year-old woman has cut down her consumption since she got pregnant, but wasn't bothered when *Roanoke Times* readers wrote in to complain about her smoking a half-pack a day. "It didn't bother me," she said. "It went in one ear and out the other. I've heard this all my life." Her child will likely not be so unbothered. (Stan Shatenstein)